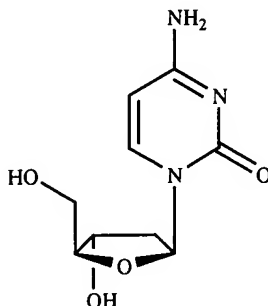


In the Claims

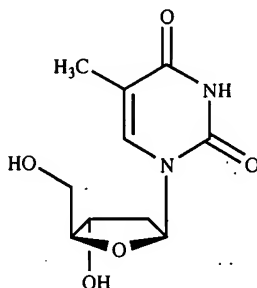
Please cancel claim 62. Please amend claims 13-17 and 39-61 as set out below.

13. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of β -L-2'-deoxycytidine of the formula:



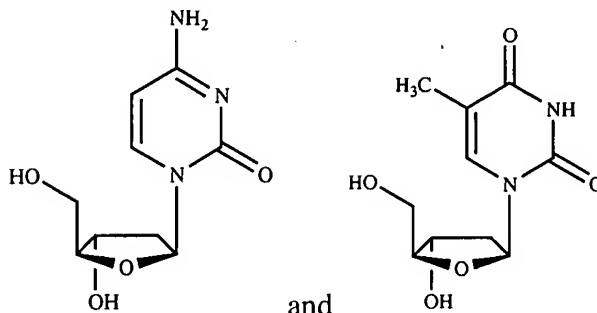
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of β -L-thymidine of the formula:



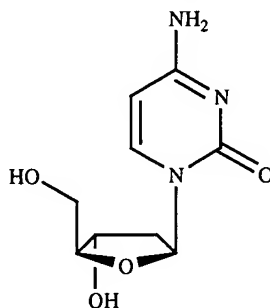
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a combination of the following nucleosides:



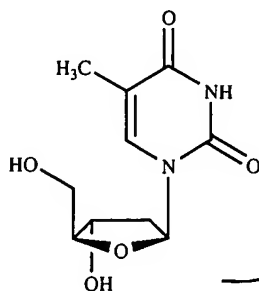
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), β -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), β -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir, 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil); lobucavir, ganciclovir and ribavirin.

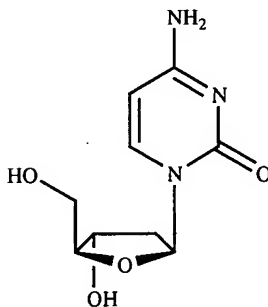
17. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), β -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), β -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir, 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil); lobucavir, ganciclovir and ribavirin.

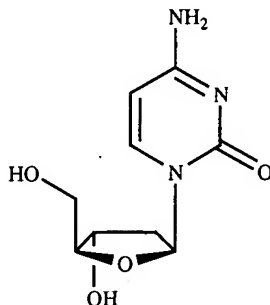
39. (Once Amended) The method of claim 37 or 38, wherein the dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



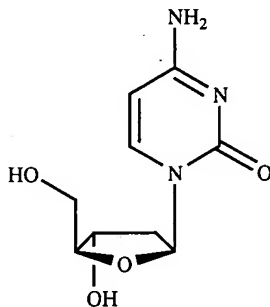
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

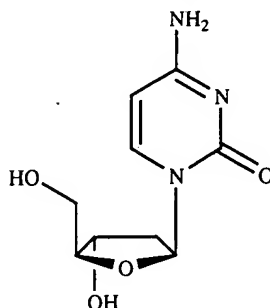
42. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of β -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4
43.

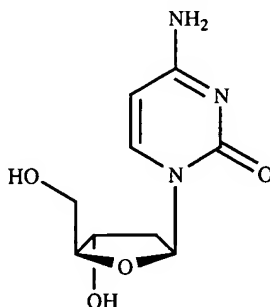
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of β -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5
44.

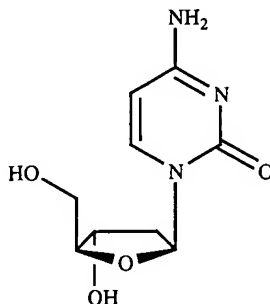
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of famciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

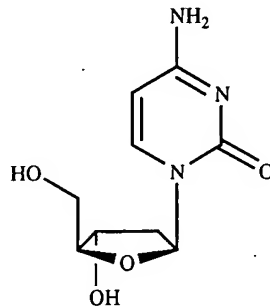
6
45.

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



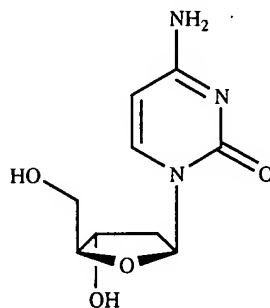
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of penciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

77
46. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



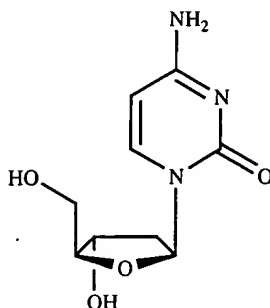
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylene-cyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

B4
cont'd 8
47. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



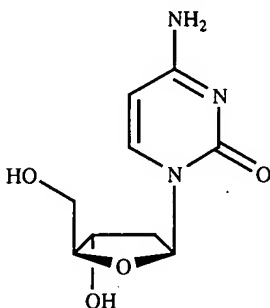
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9
48. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



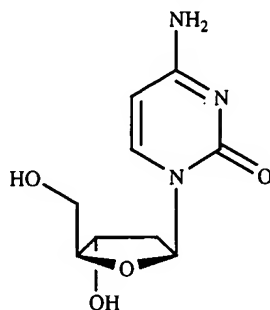
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of lobucavir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10
49. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



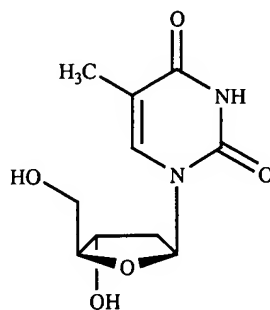
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ganciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11/11
50. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



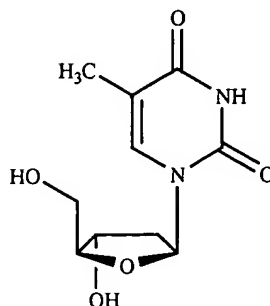
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ribavirin, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12/51. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



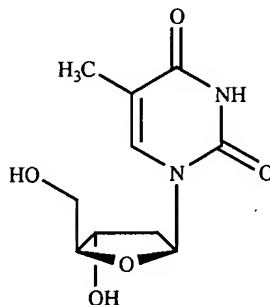
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

40
52.
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



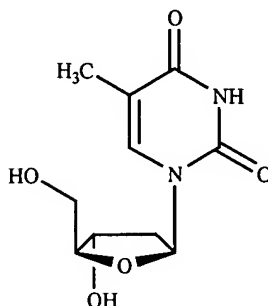
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

41
53.
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



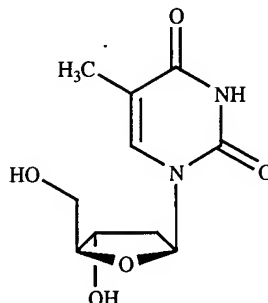
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of β -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

42
54.
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



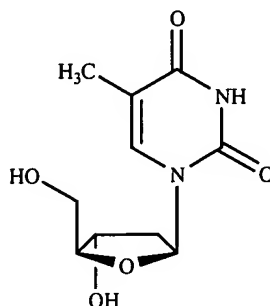
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of β -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

43
55.
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



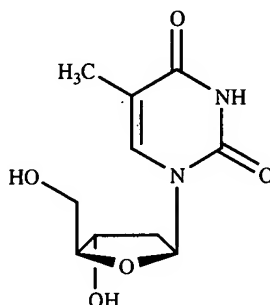
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of famciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11-144
56. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of penciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

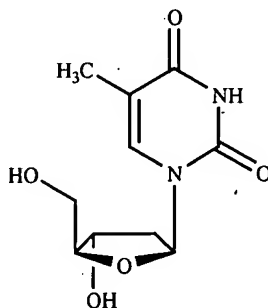
45
57. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

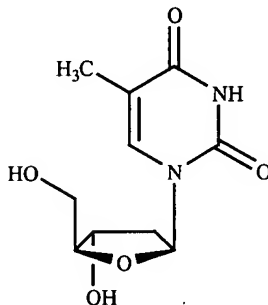
410
58.
—
T0690
B4
cont'd 47
59.
T0691

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

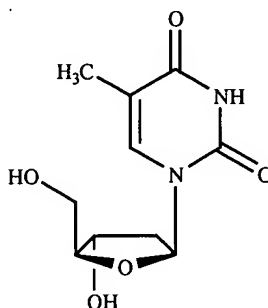
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of lobucavir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

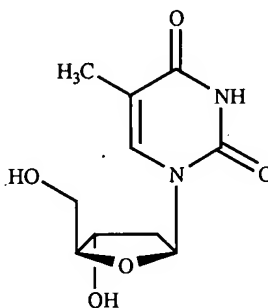
13 69 b

48
60. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ganciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

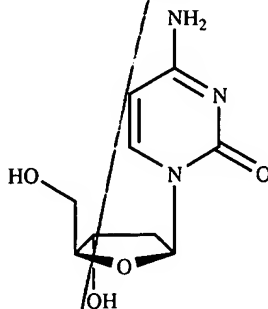
49
61. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ribavirin, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

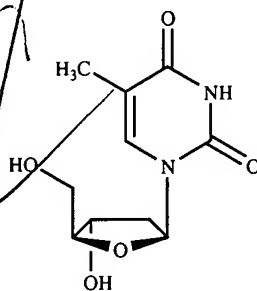
✓
Please add new claims 63-67.

63. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of β -L-2'-deoxycytidine of the formula:



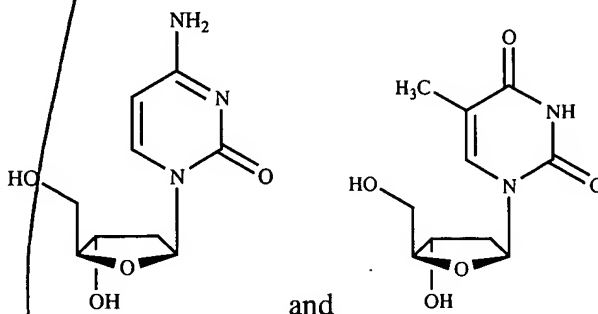
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

64. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of β -L-thymidine of the formula:



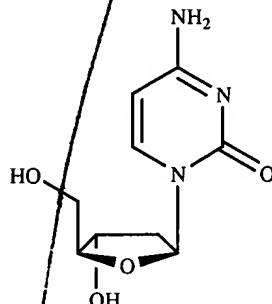
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

65. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a combination of the following nucleosides:



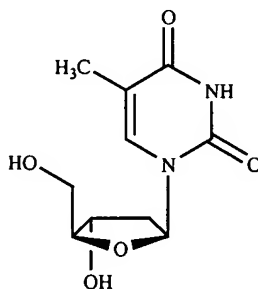
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

66. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), β -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), β -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir, 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir/BMS-200475), 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil); lobucavir, ganciclovir and ribavirin.

67. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of β -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), β -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), β -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir,